

1635



Attorney Docket No. 5218.87

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Phibbs, et al.
Serial No.: 09/747,514
Filed: December 21, 2000
For: CATABOLITE REPRESSION CONTROL (crc) GENE AND
PSUEDOMONAS VIRULENCE

Group Art Unit: 1635
Examiner: T. Gibbs

PATENT
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June 11, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
Post Office Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sir:

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action dated March 11, 2003. It is respectfully requested that this application be reconsidered in view of the amendments and remarks set forth below.

In the Specification:

Please replace the Abstract of the Disclosure on page 17, with the replacement Abstract of the Disclosure attached herewith on a separate page.

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows.

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1. (Amended) A method of screening for compounds that inhibit the virulence of *Pseudomonas* bacteria, comprising the steps of:
- providing a culture medium comprising *Pseudomonas* bacteria and an amidase operon repressor, wherein the culture medium contains fluoroacetamide in an amount toxic to said bacteria in the absence of said amidase operon repressor;
 - administering a test compound to said bacteria; and then
 - detecting the poisoning of said bacteria by said fluoroacetamide, wherein the

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